

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a method of cleaning a container having an amount of anhydrous ammonia contained therein. The container is first inspected thoroughly for leaks. Heated nitrogen gas is then fed into the container. The heated nitrogen gas may be transported from a nitrogen storage tank to the container via at least one pipe. Liquid nitrogen may be fed into a vaporizer for vaporizing the nitrogen. The liquid nitrogen gas may then be heated via a heater, such as a steamer, to expand the nitrogen gas and ensure that no liquid nitrogen enters the container. The heated nitrogen gas may vaporize any liquid anhydrous ammonia contained therein. Further, the heated nitrogen gas may transport the anhydrous ammonia to a flare for incineration. The heated nitrogen gas may be added any number of times to reduce the concentration of the anhydrous ammonia therein to a desired level. The container may then be steam cleaned and opened to enter and thoroughly clean the inside of the container.

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